

REMARKS

The Applicants respectfully request the Patent Office to consider the Present Application in light of the amendments presented in this First Preliminary Amendment.

The Applicants have canceled Dependent Claim 56.

The Applicants have added New Independent Claim 103 to provide an Independent Claim for the direct communication service group of Claims. New Independent Claim 103 includes the recitations of Independent Claim 1 and Dependent Claim 56, as well as additional limitations.

The recitations which describe the "high-bandwidth" limitation in New Independent Claim 103 are presented below:

"said apparatus being positioned in orbit to provide a high-bandwidth, direct communication service to a terminal which is not in Earth orbit, and which does not require an intermediate satellite relay."

The Applicants have attached several publications to this First Preliminary Amendment which describe the term "high-bandwidth" in the context of satellite communications.

The Applicants have amended Original Dependent Claims 57-63 so that they now depend on New Independent Claim 103.

The Applicants have also added New Dependent Claims 104-116, which each depend from New Independent Claim 103.

The Applicants submit that all of the New Claims are based on the Original Specification of the Present Patent Application, and do not recite new matter.

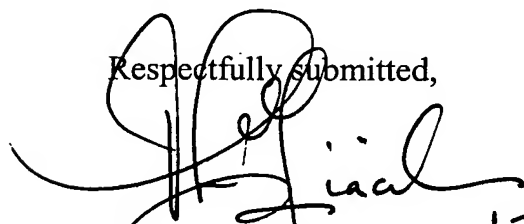
CONCLUSION

Request for Allowance of Claims

The Applicants believe a fee of \$425 is required to enter the single New Independent Claim (No. 103) and the thirteen New Dependent Claims (Nos. 104-116) that have been added to this First Preliminary Amendment. A Credit Card Charge Authorization accompanies this First Preliminary Amendment to authorize the payment of this fee. This Credit Card Charge Authorization is separate from the Credit Card Charge Authorization in this package of documents that is submitted to pay the fee for a Two Month Extension of Time to file an Election of Claims in response to a Requirement for Restriction.

The Applicants respectfully request that the all of the Pending Claims be allowed, and this Application be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,


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